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BOATS PLYING BETWEEN ERNAKULAM AND WILLINGDON ISLAND

116. Mrs. Thankamma N. Menon *(Ernakulam Women's):* Will Government be pleased to state.—

are Government aware that country ferry boats plying between Ernakulam and Willingdon Island are invariably overloaded thereby causing several accidents?

Mr. A. Madhava Prabhu *(Diwan Peishkar):*

There is no ferry between Ernakulam and Willingdon Island established by Government or conducted under their authority or with their knowledge or approval.

Mrs. Thankamma N. Menon *(Women's Ernakulam):* May I know whether the Government have any objection in establishing a ferry from Ernakulam to Willingdon Island?

Mr. A. Madhava Prabhu *(Diwan Peishkar):* There is not sufficient traffic between Ernakulam and Willingdon Island justifying the establishment of a ferry.

Mrs. Thankamma N. Menon *(Women's Ernakulam):* May I know whether the Government have any objection to establish a ferry?

Mr. A. Madhava Prabhu *(Diwan Peishkar):* The necessity is not established. It is only when the necessity is established that a ferry can be established.

Mrs. Thankamma N. Menon *(Women's Ernakulam):* Are the Government aware that private people are conducting ferries now?

Mr. A. Madhava Prabhu *(Diwan Peishkar):* Government are not aware.

Mrs. Thankamma N. Menon *(Women's Ernakulam):* Will the Government please enquire into this?

Mr. A. Madhava Prabhu *(Diwan Peishkar):* Yes.

Mrs. Thankamma N. Menon *(Women's Ernakulam):* Are the Government aware of the accidents that took place, even last week because of the overloading? I can even give the exact date. Will Government be pleased to enquire into it?

Mr. A. Madhava Prabhu *(Diwan Peishkar):* Government are not aware; but they have no objection to enquire.

Mr. K. M. Ibrahim *(Cranganur):* Are the Government not aware of an accident that happened to the boat called "Chithrabhanu"?

Mr. A. Madhava Prabhu *(Diwan Peishkar):* That occurred on the east of the Venduruthi Island.

Mr. K. M. Ibrahim *(Cranganur):* When did it happen?

Mr. A. Madhava Prabhu *(Diwan Peishkar):* It was about two years ago.

Mr. K. M. Ibrahim *(Cranganur):* Was a report called for about the accident?

Mr. A. Madhava Prabhu *(Diwan Peishkar):* Yes.

Mr. K. M. Ibrahim *(Cranganur):* Has the Government taken any action in the matter.

Mr. A. Madhava Prabhu *(Diwan Peishkar):* That has nothing to do with the present question. It was a boat coming from Alleppey.

Mr. President: Order, order. The matter that you are raising has no connection at all with the question on the paper.

Mr. A. Eachara Menon *(Chittur-Rural):* Do ferry boats ply between the Harbour and Ernakulam?

Mr. A. Madhava Prabhu *(Diwan Peishkar):* Some of the ferry boats that cross over to Cochin do touch Willingdon Island.

Mr. A. Eachara Menon *(Chittur-Rural):* Do they go overloaded?

Mr. A. Madhava Prabhu *(Diwan Peishkar):* Sometimes it is overloaded.

Mr. Prsident: I should like to inform the Hon'ble Member that every form of public transport is overloaded in these days. This we have to submit to.

Mr. A. B. Salem *(Mattancheri):* May I know whether there is any objection to the boats going from Ernakulam to Cochin regularly touching the Willingdon Island?

Mr. A. Madhava Prabhu *(Diwan Peishkar):* Unless the necessity is established, there is objection.

Mr. A. B. Salem *(Mattancheri):* May I know, Sir, whether you are aware that people are constantly necessitated to go to Willingdon Island both from Ernakulam and from Mattancheri?

Mr. A. Madhava Prabhu *(Diwan Peishkar):* So far as the Government is aware, there is no such information brought to the notice of the Government. So far as Ernakulam and

Willingdon Island are concerned, there is not so much traffic as is the case between Mattancheri and Willingdon Island.

Mr. A. B. Salem *(Mattancheri):* My question is whether people are not going from Ernakulam to Willingdon Island? Between Mattancheri and Willingdon Island, there is a regular ferry.

Mr. President: Is the Hon'ble Member asking a question? The Hon'ble Member is making a statement.

Mr. A. B. Salem *(Mattancheri):* I want only to facilitate the answer to the question and that is why I gave the information.

Mr. President: Will the Hon'ble Member ask for information if he wishes it? He is not to give information.

Mr. A. B. Salem *(Mattancheri):* Is the necessity for the public to go from Ernakulam to Willingdon Island felt by the Government and have statistics been collected as to the number of passengers that desire or that have been going from Ernakulam to Willingdon Island?

Mr. A. Madhava Prabhu *(Diwan Peishkar):* Persons who want to go from Ernakulam to Willingdon Island make use of those particular boats which touch the Willingdon Island on their way to Mattancheri. No information has reached the Government that these trips are insufficient to meet the convenience of the persons who want to go from Ernakulam to Willingdon Island.

Mr. A. B. Salem *(Mattancheri):* How many boats touch the Island on their way to Cochin?

Mr. A. Madhava Prabhu *(Diwan Peishhar):* At least two or three boats. To be exact, I want notice.

Mr. A. B. Salem *(Mattancheri):* Is there any order to the ferry contractor to that effect?

Mr. A. Madhava Prabhu *(Diwan Peishkar):* Yes, there is an order.

Mr. C. V. Iyyu *(Kunnamkulam):* Do not the Government know that several people who have to go to Willingdon Island from Ernakulam, have first to go to Mattancheri and go back to and on the Willingdon Islan d?

Mr. A. Madhava Prabhu *(Diwan Peishkar):* Not many.

Mr. C. V. Iyyu *(Kunnamkulam):* Will the Hon'ble Revenue Member make enquiries?

Mr. A. Madhava Prabhu *(Diwan Peishkar):* It is impossible, unless we go to each and every man and ask him. Am I to go to every person travelling to Cochin and ask him whether he wants to go to the Island or Cochin? That is a matter which ought to be brought to our notice.

Mr. C. V. Iyyu *(Kunnamkulam):* I only wish to bring this fact to the notice of the Hon'ble Revenue Member from my personal experience.

Mr. A. Madhava Prabhu *(Diwan Peishkar):* You are one of them, I will take it as correct.

Mr. A. B. Salem *(Mattancheri):* Are not the Canal Officers to check the passengers crossing over from Ernakulam?

Mr. A. Madhava Prabhu *(Diwan Peishkar):* Yes. They have to check.

Mr. A. B. Salem *(Mattancheri):* Will Government be pleased to call for statistics from them of the number actually going to the Island?

Mr. A. Madhava Prabhu *(Diwan Peishkar):* That is not the function of the Canal officers. They simply see whether the boat is over crowded and leaves in time.

Mr. A. B. Salem *(Mattancheri):* Will Government enquire and find out how many passengers go to Mattancheri and then cross over to the Island?

Mrs. Thankamma N. Menon *(Women's Ernakulam):* May I know whether private persons are plying boats from Ernakulam to Mattancheri?

Mr. A. Madhava Prabhu *(Diwan Peishkar):* Yes.

Mr. A. B. Salem *(Mattancheri):* Are not the Government aware that a large number of people have to go to offices in the Willingdon Island?

Mr. A. Madhava Prabhu *(Diwan Peishkar):* Two or three boats which go from Ernakulam to Mattancheri touch at Willingdon Island. To make every boat touch at Willingdon Island means the trip has to be longer and that means the number of trips between Ernakulam and Mattancheri will have to be cut down and whole of the time-table has to be recast.

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